

Rural District Council

OF

ST. THOMAS



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL

OFFICER

of

HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1950.



Public Health Department,
26, East Southernhay,
Exeter

Rural Market Council

21 THOMAS

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I N D E X.

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ST. THOMAS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
26, East Southernhay,
Exeter.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER, 1950.

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st. December, 1950, which report incorporates that of the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor for your District.

As in the previous year the general health of the community in the District has been satisfactory. Whooping Cough was the only infectious disease which showed a relatively marked rise in incidence. The measles incidence on the other hand was particularly low.

The live birth rate was slightly lower than the previous year, and the still birth rate showed also a decrease on that for 1949. The death rate however was slightly higher than 1949 rate but was below that for England and Wales as a whole.

The average age at death of practically 70 years was the highest so far recorded, and is 10 years higher than 10 years ago.

As regards housing, although 92 new houses were erected by the Council and 32 by private enterprise during 1950, the pressing need for many more new houses still exists. The Council are fully aware of the great need and are doing all within their power to meet it.

Finally may I thank the Chairman and members of the St.Thomas Rural District Council and all members of the Staff for help and co-operation shown to me during the past year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

L.G. ANDERSON.

M.D.,Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health:

L.G. ANDERSON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:

Mr. W.T. HAWKER, M.I.Mun.E., C.R.S.I., F.S.I.A.

Deputy Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. K.C. BENHAM, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. J.R. RICHARDS, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

Technical Assistant:

Mr. D.H. FELSTEAD.

Draughtsman:

Mr. F. GARLAND.

.....

CLERICAL STAFF.

Mr. B.J. Hodgon.

Mr. R.S. Grainger.

Miss O. Battersby.

Miss I. Leeworthy.

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1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	118,972
Resident Population Mid-Year 1950... ..	31,630
(as estimated by the Registrar General) ...	
Number of inhabited houses.	8,998
Rateable value (31st. March 1950)	£155,799
Product of a penny rate	£631.9.9.

2. VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Live Births.

	Males.	Females	Total
Legitimate	172	204	376
Illegitimate	7	10	17
Total	179	214	393

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ... 12.4

Standardised live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ... 15.5

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population England and Wales ... 15.8

(b) Still births

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	5	6	11
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	5	6	11

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live births ... 26.5

Still birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ... 0.35

Still birth rate per 1,000 civilian population England and Wales ... 0.37

(c) Deaths.

Males.	Females.	Total.
190	176	366

Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 12.0

Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 10.2

Death rate per 1000 civilian population England and Wales .. 11.6

Deaths from puerperal causes ... NIL.

(d) Infant Mortality.

(Deaths of infants under 1 year of age)

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	7	5	12
Illegitimate	2	-	2
Total	9	5	14

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births ... 35.8

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births England and Wales ... 29.8

3. LIVE BIRTH RATE

During 1950, 179 male and 214 female (total 393) children were born. As compared with the previous year (1949) there were 53 fewer boys, and 31 more girls born during 1950 and the total births showed a fall of 22 from 415 in 1949 to 393 in 1950.

The live birth rate of 12.4 was below that of the previous year (13.34) and is the lowest for the last ten years. When however the 1950 live birth rate has been corrected for unusual age, sex distribution of the population, the resulting rate (standardised live birth rate) of 15.5 very nearly approximates that for England and Wales as a whole (15.8).

The following table shows the birth rates during the last ten years:-

	1941	1942.	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
A	13.7	14.6	13.0	15.2	16.0	16.3	17.9	15.5	13.3	12.4
B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15.5
C	14.2	15.8	16.5	17.6	16.1	19.1	20.5	17.9	16.7	15.8

A - Crude birth rate - St. Thomas R.D.C.,

B - Standardised birth rate - St. Thomas R.D.C. (only available since 1950).

C - Birth rate England and Wales.

4. ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATE

Of the 393 children born 11 were illegitimate i.e., that is 7 fewer than in the previous year. I am pleased to report that the illegitimate birth rate has not only continued to fall but is now considerably lower than that recorded for any other year since 1941.

(Rate- Number of illegitimate births per 1,000 total live births)

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
76.0	46.9	64.5	74.7	117.0	87.0	57.0	48.5	43.5	28.0

5. STILL BIRTHS

During the year 11 babies were born dead which represents a still birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population of 0.35. It is gratifying to record that this rate is considerably lower than that for 1949 (0.51) and is also lower than that for England and Wales as a whole (0.37).

6. DEATHS

In all 366 persons normally resident in the district died during 1950 (190 males, 176 females) which represents a "corrected death rate) of 12.0, but which when allowance for unusual sex and age distribution has been made, represents a "Standardised Death Rate" of 10.2. This rate though slightly higher than that for the previous year (9.6) is below that for England and Wales (11.6).

The following table shows the corrected and standardised death rate for the last 10 years.

Death Rates.	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
St. Thomas R.D.C. Corrected.	11.9	12.8	13.0	13.0	13.5	11.7	12.4	10.2	11.6	12.0
Standardised.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.6	10.2
England & Wales.	12.9	11.6	12.1	11.6	11.4	11.5	12.0	10.8	11.7	11.6

(a) Causes of Death

The following table shows the causes of death (data supplied by the Registrar General).

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis:			
Respiratory	8	0	8
Other Forms	1	2	3
Syphilitic Disease	1	0	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	0	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	1	1
Cancer	27	27	54
Diabetes	1	4	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system (Cerebral haemorrhage etc.)	20	36	56
Coronary disease (Heart disease)	16	10	26
Hypertension with heart disease	6	9	15
Other heart disease	27	29	56
Other circulatory disease	11	6	17
Influenza	4	2	6
Pneumonia	5	6	11
Bronchitis	12	5	17
Other diseases of the respiratory system.	2	2	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	2	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	3	7
Hyperplasia of the prostate	10	0	10
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	24	44

Continued over

Causes of Death (continued)

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Motor Vehicle accidents	3	1	4
All other accidents	5	2	7
Suicide	3	2	5
Homicide and operations of war	-	1	1
All causes.	190	176	366

As in the previous year the most prevalent cause of death was heart disease - 97 cases (26.6%) whilst cerebral haemorrhage caused death in 56 persons (15.4%). During 1950 death from cancer numbered 54 (14.8%) which is 4 fewer than in 1949.

(b) Age at death.

The average age at death during 1950 was 69.93. From the table below it will be seen that the steady increase in the average age of death which has been occurring during the last 10 years has been maintained.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Males.	56.7	57.6	60.5	63.6	63.7	60.7	62.4	67.2	65.63	67.43
Females.	62.8	66.8	69.1	67.3	64.8	65.2	69.1	68.5	70.95	72.55.
Both Sexes	59.7	61.6	64.2	65.5	64.2	63.0	65.6	67.8	68.36	69.93.

The following table shows the incidence of deaths at various age groups (from returns supplied by local Registrars of Births and Deaths).

Age Groups.	Males	Females.	Total	Percentage.
Under 1 year.	9	5	14	3.80
1 and under 2 years	1	-	1	0.27
2 -	1	-	1	0.27
5 -	-	-	-	-
10 -	3	1	4	1.09
20 -	4	-	4	1.09
30 -	6	-	6	1.63
40 -	13	15	28	7.61
50 -	11	15	26	7.07
60 -	40	25	65	17.66
70 -	60	54	114	30.98
80 -	35	55	90	24.45
90 -	7	8	15	4.08
100 -	-	-	-	-

7. INFANT MORTALITY.

Fourteen babies (9 males and 5 females) under the age of 1 year died during the year which represents in infant mortality rate of (35.8). This rate is slightly higher than that for the previous year and higher than that for England and Wales. The majority of the deaths were of babies who were premature and who lived for 48 hours or less.

The causes of death of these infants were as follows:-

Sex	Age	Cause of Death.
M	6 hours	Atelectasis - Prematurity (Twin)
M	6 hours	Atelectasis - Prematurity (Twin)
F	7 hours	Atelectasis - Immaturity.
F	12 hours	Prematurity - Caesarean Section- Ao. Hydramnios. (29 wks).
F	1 day	Prematurity (25 week foetus).
F	1 day	Congenital abnormality of skull and intestines.
M	1 day	Atelectasis - Immaturity (Birth weight 1 lb. 10½ ozs)
M	2 days	Prematurity (6 weeks)
M	3 days	Fulminating neonatal Pneumonia (haemorrhagic).
M	5 days	Congenital heart disease. Cleft Palate.
M	2 weeks	Neonatal lung infection. Atelectasis. Prematurity.
M	3 weeks	Cardiac Failure - Congenital Atelectasis.
M	1 month	Infantile convulsions following eczema.
F	11 months	Anoxia associated with infantile convulsions.

8. DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Measles.	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years).	-	-	-

9. CANCER.

The incidence of deaths from Cancer decreased from 58 (16% total deaths) in 1949 to 54 (14.7% total deaths) in 1950. The parts of the body primarily affected by the disease is given in the following table:-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Stomach	4	2	6
Lungs	5	1	6
Breast	-	5	5
Uterus	-	3	3
All other sites	18	16	34
Total	27	27	54

The incidence of cancer during the last 10 years is as follows:-

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950.
Males	24	29	26	24	26	17	27	24	27	27
Females	34	22	23	29	23	26	34	29	31	27
Both Sexes	58	51	49	53	49	43	61	53	58	54
Rate per 1,000 population.	1.96	1.67	1.73	1.82	1.73	1.50	2.12	1.72	1.86	1.7

10. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During 1950 there were 262 cases of notifiable infectious disease notified. The majority of these were of whooping cough (171 cases) only 2 of which had to be admitted to the isolation hospital. I am pleased to report that there were no deaths from that disease. Measles, which had been prevalent in 1949 (468 cases) were very few in number during 1950 (23 cases).

The incidence of Scarlet Fever cases notified fell from 53 in 1949 to 23 in 1950. The cases were all very mild.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

7 cases of Infantile Paralysis occurred in the Rural District of St. Thomas during the year.

Parish.	Sex.	Age.	Date of onset.	Paralysis.	Remarks.
1. Otterton Boys Camp.	M	14	12.8.50.	Yes	Extremely acute case. Died 14.8.50.
2. Alphington Hutmments.	M	1yr 7mths.	18.7.50.	Yes Left leg.	Broncho Pneumonia. Died 20.7.50.
3. Ide	M	20	29.8.50.	Yes - Slight.	Complete recovery.
4 Alphington	F	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	7.8.50.	Right arm.	Still wearing splints,
5. Alphington	F	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	28.9.50.	Right arm.	Still attending Orthopaedic Hospital.
6. Brampford Speke.	M	8	21.11.50.	Left leg.	Complete recovery.
7. Stoke Canon.	F	47	23.10.50.	Yes.	Left district.

Case 1 was that of a boy of 14 years who was resident at the 55th Bristol Boy Scouts Camp, Otterton. The disease ran a most rapid course and within 48 hours the patient died.

Similarly case no.2, a baby of 19 months, was of a fulminating nature. This child had been away on holiday with its parents to Liverpool and three days after returning to Ide developed symptoms of poliomyelitis. 48 hours later the baby died.

Of the other 4 cases all had paralysis, two made complete recoveries, two still have paralysis. One has moved from the district and the ultimate result is not known, but the paralysis of both lower limbs had nearly recovered before she left hospital.

Tabular statements of Infectious Diseases.

(a) Incidence of Infectious Diseases.

Disease.	Cases notified.	Institution cases incl. in col.2	Cases addmitted to Hosp.,	Deaths.
Measles	23	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	171	-	2	-
Scarlet Fever	23	3	5	-
Poliomyelitis	7	-	7	2
Erysipelas	1	-	2	-
Pneumonia	32	9	3	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-	-
Diphtheria	1	1	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	-	1	-
Ophthalmia-Neonatorum	1	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-
TOTAL.	263	13	21	13

(b) Incidence of Infectious Disease grouped according to age:-

Disease.	Under 1.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	Total.
Measles	2	2	4	6	1	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	23
Whooping Cough	15	14	16	21	22	70	4	-	4	-	3	2	171
Scarlet Fever	-	1	2	1	2	7	7	3	-	-	-	-	23
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	1	3	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	6	6	32
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ac.Poliomyelitis	-	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	7
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
ALL CASES	18	19	25	30	27	87	18	5	10	3	13	8	263

(c) Table showing the incidence (numbers notified) of various infectious diseases during the last 10 years:-

Disease.	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Measles	771	8	61	53	399	92	300	38	468	23
Whooping Cough	67	33	39	53	92	54	103	99	65	171
Scarlet Fever	52	44	38	30	24	29	21	7	53	23
Diphtheria	14	22	10	6	3	-	3	3	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	6	-	-	2	3	3	6	2
Pneumonia	24	9	13	15	6	35	33	10	32	32
Erysipelas	7	11	17	8	6	9	7	1	13	1
Dysentery	8	20	32	27	57	5	38	-	1	-
Typhoid	1	25	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	5	3	1	4	3	2	-	2	-	1
Malaria	1	-	-	35	-	1	-	-	-	-
Ac.Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	3	7
Pemphiges Neonatorum	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Salmonella Infection	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-
Jaundice	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total.	952	177	224	241	592	232	518	164	641	263

11. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

During 1950 there were 468 children immunised against Diphtheria. 478 children also received re-inforcing injections. Excluding the one case of Diphtheria which occurred in a non-immunised patient in one of the large Mental Hospitals, no other cases of that disease occurred amongst the general population in the district. The efficiency of the diphtheria immunisation campaign is clearly demonstrated by a study of the following table issued by the Ministry of Health.

	Deaths.	Cases
1941	2,641.	50,797.
1948	156.	3,560.
1949	85.	1,897.

It must however be clearly understood that even though the number of cases of Diphtheria now occurring is very small the danger of non-immunised children contracting the disease is as great as ever and in consequence it is imperative that there should be no relaxation in our efforts to obtain the immunisation of the maximum number of the children in our district.

12. VACCINATION.

During the year under review 305 successful vaccinations were performed, of these 96 were primary vaccinations in children under 1 year of age, and 120 from 1 year to 4 years of age inclusive.

Primary vaccinations.	1949.	1950.
Under 1 year of age.	158	96
Over 1 and under 5 years.	7	120
Total under 5 years.	165	216

13. FOOD POISONING.

During 1950 there was one case of Food Poisoning at Pinhoe, agent causing outbreak was unidentified.

Below is full report of case as required by the Ministry of Health.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS. (CORRECTED.)

1. Local Authority. St. Thomas Rural District Council. Exeter. Devon.
Year. 1950.

2. Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected Returned to R.G.)

1st. Quarter. NIL. 2nd. Quarter. NIL. 3rd. Quarter. 1. 4th. Quarter. NIL.
TOTAL 1.

3. Outbreaks due to identified agents.

Total Outbreaks - Total cases -

Outbreaks due to:-

(a) Chemical Poisons - (d) Cl. botulinum. -
(b) Salmonella Organisms - (e) Other bacteria -
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin).-

4. Outbreaks of undiscovered cause.

Total outbreaks. - Total cases. -

5. Single Cases.

Agent Identified. - Unknown cause 1. Total. 1.

Continued over -

Food Poisoning (contd..)FOOD POISONING OUTBREAK.
(Summary of details).

1. Food causing outbreak. Not proved. Agent causing outbreak.
Trifle suspected.
2. Cases Forming outbreak. which occurred on 16th. August, 1950.
Total notified - 1. Total ascertained - 1. Fatal. NIL.
3. Clinical features. Average interval ingestion to onset (Hrs) - 3.
Main symptoms etc. Vomiting, diarrhoea - pains in abdomen.
Severity of Illness. Moderate. Duration of illness. 12 hours.
4. Results of Laboratory Investigation (Summary).

Cases. Urine and faeces samples negative.

Food Samples. Sample of trifle - Negative.
Food Handlers. Specimens of urine and faeces from Wife to laboratory -
Negative.
5. Origin and preparation of Food causing illness. Trifle made at home
was suspected of being the cause but no other member of family who
partook of this article suffered any symptoms.
6. Place at which food causing illness was consumed.
Food consumed at home. Estimated number of consumers at risk. 5.
7. Probable origin of infection or contamination of food. -
Contributory Factors. Not known.
8. Remarks. This patient is subject to "weak stomach".
This is a most indefinite case.

14. TUBERCULOSIS.

Forty new cases of Tuberculosis were entered on the register during the year under review, 26 of these cases were males and 14 were females. The majority (34) of the cases were clinically tuberculosis of the lungs and the remainder (6) were cases of tuberculosis of other parts of the body.

It should be noted that 5 cases of this disease included in the figures given above were patients who have moved into this district after the diagnoses had been made.

Tuberculosis (contd.,)

The age distribution of new cases, localisation of the disease and deaths from tuberculosis during the year is as follows:-

Age group.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
15-	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
25-	5	2	-	-	2	-	1	-
35-	5	-	1	-	3	-	-	-
45-	7	2	-	1	3	-	2	1
55-	3	1	-	-	1	1	1	-
65-	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	-
All ages.	24	10	2	4	11	1	4	1
	34		6		12		5	
TOTAL 40.					TOTAL 17.			

The following table gives the incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis since 1941:-

		1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Pulmonary	M	28	24	15	13	11	8	11	16	13	24
	F	19	17	19	9	13	6	16	16	18	10
Non-Pulmonary	M	7	9	11	4	3	2	6	3	3	2
	F	4	6	10	4	3	6	3	4	5	4
TOTAL.		58	55	55	30	30	22	36	39	39	40

The numbers of cases still on the tuberculosis register at the end of the year was as follows:-

	Males	Females	Total.
Pulmonary	138	129	267
Non-Pulmonary	55	47	102
TOTAL.	193	176	369

As in previous years on receipt of the notification of a new case of Tuberculosis the housing conditions, milk supply, etc. are investigated in collaboration with the County Tuberculosis Officer, and where necessary appropriate recommendations are made to the Housing Committee.

15. VENEREAL DISEASE

As from the 5th. July, 1948, the Regional Hospital Board assumed the responsibility for the prevention and control of Venereal Disease.

Under the present scheme free advice and treatment is available to all persons at the following centre:-

		Males		Females
<u>EXETER</u>				
Royal Devon &	Mon.	3 - 5 p.m.	Mon.	6 - 7 p.m.
Exeter Hospital	Fri.	6 - 8 p.m.,	Fri.	3 - 5 p.m.

16. LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological and Serological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, 7 Dix's Field, Exeter, under the direction of Dr. B. Moore, whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

17. HOSPITAL FACILITIES

(a) General

The population of the District is well served by the following Hospitals:-

- (1) Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East Exeter ('phone 2261)
- 300 beds.
- (2) Exmouth Cottage Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth ('phone 4381)
- 45 beds.
- (3) Budleigh Salterton Cottage Hospital ('phone Bud. Salt. 20) - 22 beds.
- (4) Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Buckerell Bore, Exeter
('phone Exeter 54217) - 114 beds.
- (5) West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter.
- (6) A Plastic Surgery Centre ('phone Exeter 3183) - 62 beds
is held at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital on second Thursday of each month and at Ivybank, St. David's Hill, Exeter on the Saturday following the second Thursday in the month. Mr. Fitz-Gibbons and Mr. Bodenham of the South Western Regional Hospital Board attends.

(b) Maternity

- (1) Poltimore Nursing Home - 15 beds (and 2 Isolation).
- (2) Redhills House, St. Thomas, Exeter.
- (3) Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital for complicated or difficult cases.

(c) Isolation

Exeter City Isolation Hospital Whipton. ('phone Exeter 67158).

(d) Smallpox

A Smallpox Hospital of 28 beds at Upton Pyne administered by the Regional Hospital Board is available in case of need.

Should your Medical Officer of Health require the services of a Consultant arrangements have been made to call upon either -

Dr. C. Seward, 20 Southernhay West, Exeter.

or

Dr. W. Laird, City Hospital, Exeter.

18. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Under the County Council Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme Infant Welfare Centres are held at:-

- (1) The Council School, Alphington on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and attended by Dr. Walker;
- (2) The Girl Guide Room, Broadclyst on the 1st and 3rd Thursday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at which Dr. Lockhart attends;
- (3) The Shack, Slewton, Whimble on the 2nd and 4th Thursday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. attended by Dr. Gunner on the 4th Thursday only;
- (4) The School Room, Kenton on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. attended by Dr. Walker;
- (5) The Cottage, Lymptone every Wednesday attended by Dr. Nicoll.
- (6) The Memorial Hall, Topsham on the 2nd and 4th Thursday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. attended by Dr. Walker.

During the year the following attendances were made:-

	<u>Mothers</u>		<u>Infants.</u>		<u>1 - 5 years.</u>	
		x		x		x
ALPHINGTON	321	32	227	28	126	12
BROADCLYST	333	20	237	22	154	4
WHIMPLE	266	18	171	21	152	3
KENTON	265	18	161	15	136	-
LYMPSTONE	359	24	230	15	74	8
TOPSHAM	526	34	345	32	247	6

(Columns marked x denote attendances for the first time)

REPORT OF ENGINEER, SURVEYOR, & CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
ON SEWERAGE AND WATER SUPPLIES.

SEWERAGE.

Alphington. The sewage disposal works for the Hutments used by squatters known as Dawlish Road Camp has been re-conditioned and improved during the year. The Distributors were repaired and approximately 20 yards of piping laid to take effluent to an adjacent stream. A new Rotary Distributor is on order and should be fixed early in 1951.

IDE LANE. Sewer extended 504 yards (422 yds. 9" and 82 yds. 6" together with the necessary manholes) to serve properties up to and including Midway Terrace.

Christow. The new sewage scheme for this parish is still under consideration but no work has yet commenced.

Exminster. A new pump house has been erected on the site of the old sewage air lift which has become obsolete. The delivery of the pump itself is still awaited. One distributor at the sewage works has been repaired and new parts fitted. A completely new distributor is on order to replace one which is incapable of efficient repair.

40 yards of 9" sewer in the main road was renewed following a collapse and a further section should be renewed at an early date.

Broadclyst. The small sewage disposal works at Hele was overhauled viz. distributors and filtering media renewed and settling tanks repaired.

Pinhoe. The old 6" sewer in the Monkerton area was replaced in a new line by 800 yards of 15", the old sewer remaining to act as a storm water relief sewer.

A new screening chamber was constructed at the disposal works and 43 yards of 12" storm water overflow pipe laid. In addition the old sewage tank at the Chancel Lane Flats was abolished, and intercepting chamber constructed in lieu thereof and connected to the sewer.

Ide. An extension of 70 yards of 6" sewer was laid to The College area.

East Budleigh. A section of sewer, some 80 yards of 9" which had become defective was renewed.

Otterton. A portion of 6" sewer which collapsed due to a leaky water main was renewed for 10 yards.

Rockbeare. The whole length of sewer in the village was chained and cleaned through, also outfall tanks emptied and cleansed.

The following are works proposed for 1951 for which surveys and estimates have been prepared:-

- Alphington. Sewer extension Chudleigh Road.
528 yards of 9" - 52 yards of 6".
- Broadclyst. New Settling Tank - Dog Village.
- Whitestone. 6" effluent outfall 180 yards.
Redrainage of Council Houses - Provision of Water Closets, Baths, etc. and Mains Water Supply.
- Woodbury. Cottles Lane 6" sewer extension 645 yards.

WATER SUPPLY.

- Alphington. Water main extensions have been carried out in the Bakers Hill - Pocombe Bridge area, and an extension from the North Devon Water Board's supply to Whitestone has been used to serve properties at Cutteridge.
- Bicton. The proposed scheme mentioned in my last report has made no further progress.
- North Regional Scheme. This is now under construction and the laying of part of the mains is completed. The Reservoir at Upton Pyne is being constructed. This scheme will supply the parishes of Brampford Speke, Upton Pyne, Netherexce, Rewe, Stoke Canon, and Huxham. The total area of these parishes is 7,633 acres and the population 1,480. When in actual operation the scheme should be of great benefit to this part of the Council's area.
- Bridford. This is in the Western Regional Scheme and mains are being laid in the Parish but I do not anticipate a very early supply of water.
An additional Settling Tank was built at the Water works, capacity 1,500 gallons.
- Christow. This also is in the Western Regional Scheme and mains are being laid in the Parish but I do not anticipate an early supply of water.
- Dunsford. Although this parish is in the North Devon Water Board's Supply Area it is proposed to provide a supply of water from the Council's West Regional Scheme.
- Exminster. The mains mentioned in my last report are now completed and the scheme is in operation. This is a great boon to the parish.
- Kenton & Starcross. The new mains are laid and the reservoir completed. The scheme should have been in operation by December, 1950, but there has been considerable delay and up to date no water is available.

- Lympstone. The mains have been extended from Strawberry Hill to the main Exmouth Road and to Gulliford, Woodbury. (638 yds. of 5" and 300 yds. of 3").
16 Anti-frost valves were fitted at the Post War Council Houses.
- Sowton. There is a proposal to extend the Exeter City mains to this village.
- Topsham. The watermains have been extended 120 yards along the main Exeter road to supply development in the vicinity of that road. Extensions have also been carried out within the Retreat Estate to supply development there.
25 Sluice Valves were renewed at various points in the town, also 7 Fire Hydrants were renewed on the instructions of the Devon County Council Fire Service.
- Whitestone. The Exeter City Council's mains have been extended to the parish of Whitestone in conjunction with the North Devon Water Board but the water is not yet available.

WATER SAMPLES.

During the year 106 samples of water were taken (105 for bacteriological and 1 for chemical examination).

49 of such samples were taken as a matter routine to ensure the bacteriological quality of the main's supplies in various parts of the district, of these 39 or approximately 80% were satisfactory and the remainder to a slight degree unsatisfactory. Where an unsatisfactory sample was obtained every endeavour was made to locate possible sources of contamination and further test samples obtained until the trouble was traced and rectified.

The following is a tabulation of results of these bacteriological examinations in accordance with the Ministry of Health's classifications for piped supplies. As this is of a high standard it does not follow that because water from wells and springs etc. do not fall within Class 1 or 2 that they are necessarily unsatisfactory for those particular sources of supply.

<u>Classification.</u>	<u>Public.</u>		<u>Private.</u>		<u>Total.</u>
	<u>Mains.</u>	<u>Wells.</u>	<u>Mains.</u>	<u>Wells.</u>	
Highly Satisfactory. Class 1.	35.	2.	1.	8.	46.
Satisfactory. Class 2.	4.	-	-	3.	7.
Suspicious. Class 3.	4.	-	-	1.	5.
Unsatisfactory. Class 4.	6.	-	10.	31.	47.
	<hr/> 49.	<hr/> 2.	<hr/> 11.	<hr/> 43	<hr/> 105

At the end of the year 1950 of the total of 8,859 rated properties in the district, 3,944 are connected to the Public Water Mains and a further 204 are served by means of stand pipes.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

The following is the result of samples of water taken during the month of December, 1950, from various Water Works under the direct control of this Council:-

"Clystlands" Topsham.	Class 1.
"Rushmore", Topsham.	Class 1.
Harpford.	Class 1.
Lympstone	Class 1.
Broadclyst.	Class 1.
Starcross.	Class 1.
Bridford.	Class 1.

GENERAL WORKS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

Topsham. 1 - 16 Sunhill Avenue.

The provision of indoor water closets together with soil pipes and flushing apparatus at the above houses was carried out. Owing to the shortage of materials at the time of construction this had been omitted from the contract, the compartment only being built.

HOUSING AND BUILDING LICENSING.

The number of plans submitted during the year was 445, (422 were approved, 35, were disapproved) some being carried over from 1949, and the remainder still under consideration at the end of the year.

Of the foregoing applications 55 were in respect of the erection of new dwellings, 13 to convert existing buildings into dwellings and flats.

The remainder were for additions, alterations, site plans, advertisement signs, and extensions of electricity supplies etc.

During the year 1950, 22 building licences were issued for the erection of new dwellings, of which 7 were in respect of the 1951 quota and will be erected in 1951. In addition, 2 licences were issued by the Ministry of Works for the erection of farmhouses.

The position in regard to the issue of building licences for new dwellings continued to be acute, as shown by the fact that no such licences were issued by the Council between 2nd. January and 29th of November, whilst the number of additional applications received for such licences increased by 28.

With regard to general licensing for additions, conversions, repairs and maintenances etc. there was a cut of 20% in the total amount allowed to the Council to be issued during the year, on instructions from the Ministry of Health. This cut was arrived at by dividing the total amount issued in 1949 by 5 in order to arrive at a quarterly figure of £4786, this amount having to cover all work including conversions, and provision of additional accommodation, as well as sanitation, repairs etc. in 45 parishes.

This amount was found to be totally inadequate to cover all the applications on hand including those carried over from the previous year, and in the latter part of the year application was made to the Ministry for an additional allowance.. Some £4000 extra was granted, but in spite of this, the year ended with some £11,000 worth of essential work still waiting for licences.

To compare 1950 with the position in the previous year it would appear that whilst in 1949 the consent of the Ministry had to be obtained for any expenditure in excess of £500 and the amount did not come out of our quota, in 1950 the position was reversed in that no consent was needed, but all expenditure was debited against the quota.

Taken on the whole, the Licensing year of 1950 was a very trying one, with a totally inadequate allowance of both new building licences and money to spend on conversions and repair work on the one hand, and on the other a steadily mounting pile of applications for both.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - SECTION 269.

Moveable Dwellings.

During the year 1950 there were 13 applications received for renewal of licences and 20 new applications under the above Act to Authorise use of land for sites for moveable dwellings, of the latter 15 were granted and 5 refused.

At the end of the year there were 36 licences in operation covering the period up to the 31st. December, 1950 (8 of these were licences covering more than one year).

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Sewerage & Drainage.

No. of private house drains connected to sewers.	85.
No. of drains repaired.	3.
No. of cesspools emptied and cleansed.	22.
No. of new or extensions to existing sewers.	3.
No. of repairs to sewers and sewage outfall works.	7.

Water Supply.

No. of new or extensions to existing water mains.	3.
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Milk and Food Inspections.

Visits to:-

Butchers, Fishmongers, & Grocers etc.	67
Restaurants, Cafes, and other Food Premises	68
Dairies and Milk Shops.	58
Ice Cream Manufacturers.	18
Ice Cream Retailers.	144

Total Visits.	355
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Food & Drugs Act, 1938.Ice Cream.

No. of Premises registered.	58.
No. of premises registered but not selling.	7.
No. of premises selling pre-packed Ice Cream.	46.
No. of premises selling loose Ice Cream.	5.
No. of Manufacturers (1 Cold Mix & 1 Pasteurised)	2.

	<u>1950.</u>		<u>1949</u>		<u>1948</u>		<u>1947</u>	
Class 1.	58	54.2%	22	45.82%	7	33.34%	7	20%
Class 2.	32	30%	6	12.5%	4	19.0%	9	25.66%
Class 3.	11	10.2%	10	20.84%	3	14.32%	12	34.34%
Class 4.	6	5.6%	10	20.84%	7	33.34%	7	20%

During the year 144 visits were made to registered premises and 108 samples of ice cream taken (1 sample was not graded owing to an accident at the laboratory).

The position remains as the previous year, by far the largest majority of ice cream retailed in the district is manufactured outside it.

It will be noted that the number of retailers has increased by 18 the whole of which are selling the pre-packed article, in addition 2 retailers have changed from selling loose ice cream to pre-packed and 2 further have ceased to retail ice cream.

The above is a tabulated statement of results of samples and it gives a pleasing picture to notice the improvement in the number of samples in Grades 1 and 2 which proves that the work of the department is definitely effective.

Dairies.

No. of Dairies on Register.	14.
No. of Producer retailers.	170.
No. of Distributors.	26.
No. of Distributors of Designated Milk.	14.

Milk Samples.

No. of Milk Samples.	20.
No. of Milk Samples passed.	13.
No. of Milk Samples failed.	5.

(1 sample was for biological test - Result Negative)
(1 sample was not tested owing to mishap)

Bakehouses.

No. of Bakehouses.	42
No. of visits made.	17
No. found defective.	3.
No. remedied.	3.

Slaughterhouses.

No. of Slaughter Houses licences.	6.
No. of Slaughterhouses (some now used as Meat Stores)	32.
No. of visits made.	7.
No. of Diseased Carcases found partly or wholly unfit for human consumption)	2.

Foodstuffs Condemned.

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
24 cases of Pudding Mixture.		3.	0	96
1 Pig Head and Tongue.				12
1 Hindquarter of Beef.				167
Mutton.				37
1 Pig and Offal.				180
Prunes.	1.	5.	0	90.
Total.	1.	13.	0	22

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
No. 778 Tins and Bottles.		10.	0	24

TOTAL 2 Tons. 3 Cwts. 1 Qr. 18 Lbs.

Houses.

No. of New Houses erected (By the Council)	92.
(By Private Enterprise and other Authorities)	32.
No. of Houses repaired and limewashed.	76.
No. of Premises inspected under the P.H. & Housing Acts.	182.

Infectious Diseases.

Inquiries re cases of Infectious Disease	29.
Rooms disinfected.	7.

Verminous Premises.

No. of houses disinfected.	5.
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Complaints.

No. received.	124.
Informal Notices served during the year.	110.
No. fully complied with.	54.
No. partly complied with.	27.
Statutory Notices complied with in 1950.	1.

Offensive Trades.

No. of Offensive Trades.	2.
No. of Offensive Trades improperly conducted	-

Closets.

No. of Conversions into water Closets.	31.
No. of cases Insufficient Closet Accommodation.	2.
No. of cases remedied.	2.

Water Supplies.

No. of samples taken for analysis.	106.
No. of cases found Doubtful.	52.
No. of New Houses certified for occupation with adequate Water Supply.	32.
No. of new wells sunk.	5.
No. of Villages with Public Supply.	18.
No. of Villages without Water Mains.	27.
No. of complaints as to Water Supply.	16.

Petroleum Acts.

No. of premises licensed to store.	114.
No. of premises licensed to store Carbide of Calcium.	2.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number of			
	Number on Register	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	48	20	5	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	106	9	4.	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	154	29	9	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	5	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	-	-
Total	9	4	-	-	-

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work.	Number of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c)
Wearing apparel - Making etc.	19
Furniture and upholstery	4

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Since the coming into operation of the above Act and up to the end of 1950, the following is a brief summary of the return made to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries:-

Type of Property.	Inspected.	Found to be infested by		
		Rats.		Mice only
		Major	Minor.	
Local Authority's Property.	22	12	10	-
Dwelling House.	1137	216	909	12
Business Premises.	6	4	2	-
Agricultural Property.	3	-	3	-
Total	1168	232	924	12

Total number of properties inspected	1349
Total number of visits made.	6581
Notices served under section 4 .	7
Number of treatments carried out.	1168
Number of Block Control Treatments	46
Number of separate occupancies.	30
Number of Sewer Manholes Treated.	119

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W.T. HAWKER,

M.I. Mun. Engineers,
C.R. San Inst. F.S.I.A.,
Cert. Meat & Food Insp.
Sanitary Surveyor & Insp.
Registered Architect.

